

# Beginners' Lesson 8: Takeout Double

**Board 1**  
North Deals  
None Vul

♠ A K Q 10 7  
♥ 10 5  
♦ J 2  
♣ A 8 5 3

♠ 8 6 4 2  
♥ Q 9 7 6  
♦ K 5 4  
♣ Q 2

N	E
W	S

♠ 5  
♥ A J 8 4  
♦ A Q 10 7  
♣ K 7 6 4

♠ J 9 3  
♥ K 3 2  
♦ 9 8 6 3  
♣ J 10 9

East has a perfect takeout double - support for all unbid suits. West has a poor hand so bids hearts at the lowest possible level.

Lead is ♣ 4 against a spade contract and ♠ A against a heart contract.

West North East South  
2♥ 1♠ Dbl Pass  
All pass Play the hand twice: once in 2♥ by West then in 2♠ by North

**Board 2**  
East Deals  
N-S Vul

♠ K 8  
♥ K 8 5 4  
♦ 5 4  
♣ Q J 8 5 2

♠ 10 5 3 2  
♥ J 7 2  
♦ J 8 3 2  
♣ A 6

N	E
W	S

♠ 9 6 4  
♥ A Q 10 9 3  
♦ A Q 10 9  
♣ 3

♠ A Q J 7  
♥ 6  
♦ K 7 6  
♣ K 10 9 7 4

South has an opening hand and tolerance for the unbid suits. North is strong enough to make a free bid, but not strong enough to bid game. North can bid 2♣ or 1NT to show they have values. EW can now bid diamonds to show at least 5 hearts and 4 diamonds.

Lead is ♦ A against clubs and ♣ 7 against a heart contract.

West North East South  
1♠ 2♣ 1♥ Dbl 3♣  
2♦ 2♥ 2♦ 3♣

**Board 3**  
South Deals  
E-W Vul

♠ 10 8 7 6  
♥ 10 7 4  
♦ 10 7 4  
♣ K 5 2

♠ A K J 9  
♥ Q 9 5 3  
♦ Q 9 6 5 3  
♣ —

N	E
W	S

♠ 5 2  
♥ 8 6  
♦ A K J 8  
♣ A J 10 7 4

♠ Q 4 3  
♥ A K J 2  
♦ 2  
♣ Q 9 8 6 3

East, knowing that West has an opening hand, can bid 3NT with an excellent club stop and enough HCP for game..

Lead is ♣ 3 and North plays the King.

Declarer should win ♣ A and play the ♣ J to set up the ♣ 10 for the 9th trick.

West North East South  
Dbl Pass 3NT 1♣ All pass

**Board 4**  
West Deals  
Both Vul

♠ A 5 3  
♥ K 9 7 5  
♦ 10 5  
♣ A J 6 3

♠ K 4  
♥ A J  
♦ K J 9 4 2  
♣ Q 7 5 2

N	E
W	S

♠ 8 6  
♥ Q 10 6 4 2  
♦ A 8 6 3  
♣ 8 4

♠ Q J 10 9 7 2  
♥ 8 3  
♦ Q 7  
♣ K 10 9

With 6 spades and 8 HCP, South has enough to invite game, so bids 2♠. North is minimum and declines the invitation.

Lead is ♦ 2 from the longest and strongest suit.

Declarer draws trumps and plays West, the opener, for the ♣ Q.

Therefore play the ♣ K then ♣ 10 and let it run if West does not cover with the ♣ Q

West North East South  
1♦ Dbl 1♥ 2♠  
All pass

**Board 5**  
North Deals  
N-S Vul

♠ 10 8  
♥ A 9 2  
♦ A K J 7 4 2  
♣ 8 2

♠ K 7 5 4  
♥ K 4 3  
♦ Q 8  
♣ Q J 10 5

N	E
W	S

♠ Q J 9 3  
♥ Q J 8 5  
♦ 10 3  
♣ A K 3

♠ A 6 2  
♥ 10 7 6  
♦ 9 6 5  
♣ 9 7 6 4

West, with 10+ points, jumps to 2♠.

East passes.

Lead is ♦ A.

Declarer should draw trumps first They make 9 tricks by losing ♥ A, ♠ A, ♦ AK.

West North East South  
2♠ 1♦ Dbl Pass  
All pass

**Board 6**  
East Deals  
E-W Vul

♠ K Q 4 2  
♥ 9 6 4  
♦ A 3 2  
♣ 7 5 4

♠ 6 5  
♥ J 2  
♦ Q J 10 9 5  
♣ 9 8 6 2

N	E
W	S

♠ A 10 9 8 7  
♥ K 10 7 5  
♦ 8 6  
♣ A Q

♠ J 3  
♥ A Q 8 3  
♦ K 7 4  
♣ K J 10 3

North's best suit is the opponent's spade suit so should bid 1NT to show 6-9 HCP and a hold in spades.

Lead is ♠ 7.

Firstly, Declarer should play on clubs and later take a heart finesse.

West North East South  
Pass 1NT 1♠ Dbl  
All pass

**Board 7**  
South Deals  
Both Vul

♠ A Q 8 6  
♥ 4  
♦ 7 6 3 2  
♣ 9 5 3 2

♠ 10 9  
♥ K Q 10 9  
♦ K Q 5  
♣ Q J 7 6

N	E
W	S

♠ 7 4  
♥ A 8 6 5 3  
♦ J 10 9 4  
♣ A 4

♠ K J 5 3 2  
♥ J 7 2  
♦ A 8  
♣ K 10 8

This should be a competitive auction. NS bidding spades and EW bidding hearts.

Play the hand twice in spades and hearts. Both contracts should make 9 tricks.

Lead is ♥ K against spades and the a low spade against a heart contract.

West North East South  
Dbl 2♠ 3♥ 1♠ All pass

**Board 8**  
West Deals  
None Vul

♠ Q J 10 7  
♥ A K 9 7  
♦ A 9 5 3  
♣ 4

♠ A 9 5 2  
♥ J 4  
♦ K J  
♣ K 10 9 7 6

N	E
W	S

♠ 8 6 4  
♥ 6 5 3  
♦ Q 10 8 2  
♣ A Q 3

♠ K 3  
♥ Q 10 8 2  
♦ 7 6 4  
♣ J 8 5 2

North's double promises support for all the unbid suits and an opening hand.

South, who would have bid 2♥ over partner's opening 1♥ bid, should therefore bid 2♥.

South should draw 3 rounds of trumps and set up spades remembering to play ♠ K first, to avoid being blocked.

West North East South  
1♣ Dbl 1NT 2♥  
All pass Lead: ♣ 6